# NexE S Bio

### Brief Summary

## NexEos Bio – Overview

- Founded and managed by the team that successfully developed *reslizumab*, and has worked on eosinophil-mediated inflammation for 20+ years
- Years of research led to the discovery that **eMBP1** is a central actor driving inflammation
  - Released by activated eosinophils, eMBP1 drives inflammation and remains in target tissue <u>much longer</u> than eosinophils (approx. 6 weeks)
- Strong IP in both diagnostics and therapeutics: the only company in the world with these diagnostic capabilities

### **Diagnostic Program**

Binding to eMBP1 to identify and monitor disease

### **Therapeutic Program**

*Neutralizing* eMBP1 to reduce inflammation, control symptoms

# NexEos – Diagnostic Opportunity

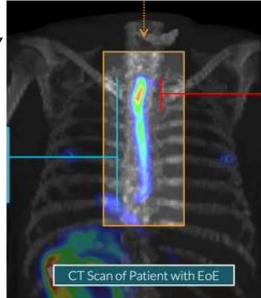
NDX33-o (radio-labeled heparin) for detection of eMBP1 inflammation in EoE

NDX33-o, a non-invasive imaging agent, binds to eMBP1 and "lights up" eosinophil-related inflammation in the esophagus  $\rightarrow$  vast opportunities for diagnostics in other areas of the body <u>currently undiagnosable</u>

Heparin (most acidic substance in the body) binds to eMBP1 Established pharmacokinetic and safety profiles – not systemically absorbed when taken orally

Technetium forms a stable complex with radio-labeled heparin (NDX33-o)

- Proof of concept demonstrated in initial study of 8 EoE patients
- Clearly defined regulatory path
- CMC supply for heparin established US supplier
- Filed IND for NDX33-o
- Rapid path to market for lead diagnostic indication
- NIH grant (\$4M) further validates science
- Strong granted IP issued patents run through 2034; additional filings pending
- Granted Orphan Drug Designation for EoE; filed for Fast Track, pending IND opening [January 2021 FDA meeting]



#### **Scientific Advances**

First, non-invasive and visual diagnostic for EoE

Published on false negative for EoE biopsy vs positive read when targeting eMBP1 as marker

Using antibody for eMBP1 extra cellular detection in pathology, proving false negative patients can be positive for EoE Dx

#### The patient takes NDX33-o orally then is imaged by SPECT-CT scan.

Areas of eosinophilic inflammation are highlighted by the imaging agent.

3

Areas of greatest inflammation are shown in red.

This not only identifies that the patient has eosinophil-driven inflammation, but it also shows precisely where throughout the entirety of the esophagus the inflammation exists.

### NexEesBio

CT Scan of Patient with EoE

# NexEos – Therapeutic Opportunity

NTXf100 and NTXp101: NCEs for neutralizing eMBP1 for treatment of eosinophil-mediated diseases

NTXf100 and NTXp101 have been synthesized to block the cellular destructive effects of eMBP1 and the recruitment of other inflammatory mediators. This forms the basis for NexEos' therapeutic program.

### NTXf100

- Lead therapeutic program targeted, nonsystemic oral and topical as first-line therapy in chronic gastrointestinal and ocular conditions
- Proprietary, fractionated high molecular weight subtype of heparin to be used as a non-systemic oral solution and/or eye drop
- Rapid path to market for lead indications: nonsystemic oral for EoE; topical for atopic keratoconjunctivitis
- Opportunity for effective, targeted nonsystemic oral and topical forms to be used as first-line therapy in GI, nasal and ocular conditions, reserving biologics for patients who have severe disease

### **NTXp101**

- Targeted injectable/inhaled treatment as firstline therapy for mild to moderate chronic disease to further expand therapeutic reach and commercial potential
- Next Generation product (NTXp101) will allow for systemic and inhaled administration
- Provisional applications filed for composition of matter and methods of use
- Opportunity for a next generation therapy with the ability to deliver as injectable/inhaled forms – expands potential to indications such as asthma, HES, CSS



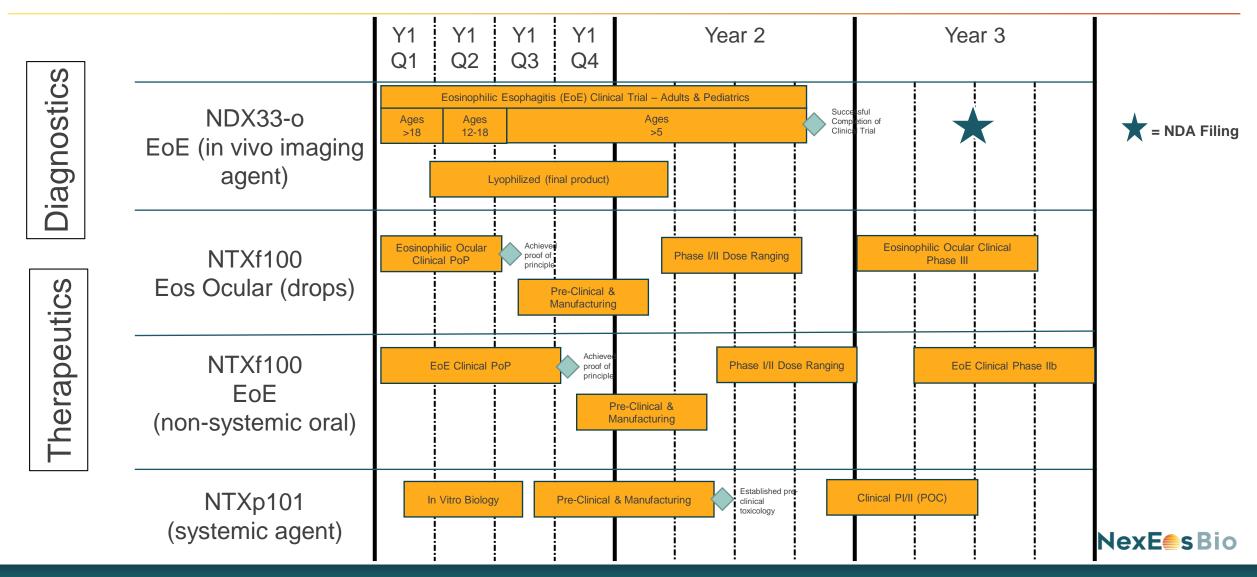
## NexEos Bio Pipeline

Robust pipeline of programs for the diagnosis and treatment of eosinophilic diseases

Program	Indication	Preclinical Development	Phase 1	Phase 2		
NDX33-o	In vivo imaging agent fo	<b>DIAGNOSTIC PROGRAM:</b> 8 patients studied under RDRC at University of Utah established clear pro- of concept;				
NDX33-o	In vivo imaging agent for indications (EGID, eos	or diagnosis and managem <mark>ent of additional</mark> rhinosinusitis)		NexEos clinical study to be conducted i collaboration with NIH under U44 grant NDX33-o: To expand beyond EoE into additional eos-mediated diseases		
NTXf100	<b>0</b> NCE for treatment of eosinophil-driven diseases <i>(non-systemic oral/topical)</i> (EoE, EGID, eos rhinosinusitis, eos ocular conditions)			THERAPEUTIC PROGRAM: Neutralize eMBP1 inflammation across a wide array of eos-mediated diseases NTXf100: NCE non-systemic oral and		
NTXp101		utralizing eMBP1 inflammation for iven diseases (injectable/inhaled agent)		topical treatment of eos-mediated diseases NTXp101: 2 <sup>nd</sup> generation NCE to enable injectable/inhaled delivery		

### FUNDING REQUIREMENT: \$30M, can be traunched \$20M/10M based on milestones

### NexEos Bio: 3-Year Development Plan & Milestones



# NexE S Bio



### **NexEos Bio Highlights**

### Focused on the treatment, management and diagnosis of chronic eosinophilic diseases

- High unmet medical need for eosinophilic disease therapeutics and diagnostics
- Team has worked on eosinophil-mediated inflammation for 20+ years
- Successfully developed anti-IL5 mAb, reslizumab (Cinqair®) for eosinophilic asthma
- New understanding of the effect of eosinophil major basic protein 1 (eMBP1) in eosinophilmediated inflammatory diseases
  - Specific radiolabeled diagnostic (NDX33-o) clear proof of concept in eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) patients
    - potential first, non-invasive diagnostic tool
    - new imaging capability first visual images of eosinophil-driven inflammation
  - NDX33-o clinical study to be conducted in collaboration with NIH under SBIR-U44 grant
  - Orphan Drug Designation granted for EoE diagnostic
  - NTXf100 and NTXp101 synthesized to block cellular destructive effects of eMBP1 and recruitment of other inflammatory mediators. The basis for therapeutic program in mild to moderate, chronic eosinophilic diseases
    - Target eMBP1 binding demonstrated in 8 patients through diagnostic program
  - Exploring ability to target various diseases with eosinophilic inflammation: eosinophilic GI disorders (EGIDs), such as EoE, eos gastroenteritis, and eos colitis; eos conjunctivitis; eos rhinosinusitis
- Strong IP estate in both diagnostics and therapeutics



NexEos Bio radiolabeled diagnostic of SPECT/CT image of eosinophil-driven inflammation



## NexEos Bio Pipeline

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### FUNDING REQUIREMENT: \$30M, can be traunched \$20M/10M based on milestones

### NexEos Bio: History of the Team

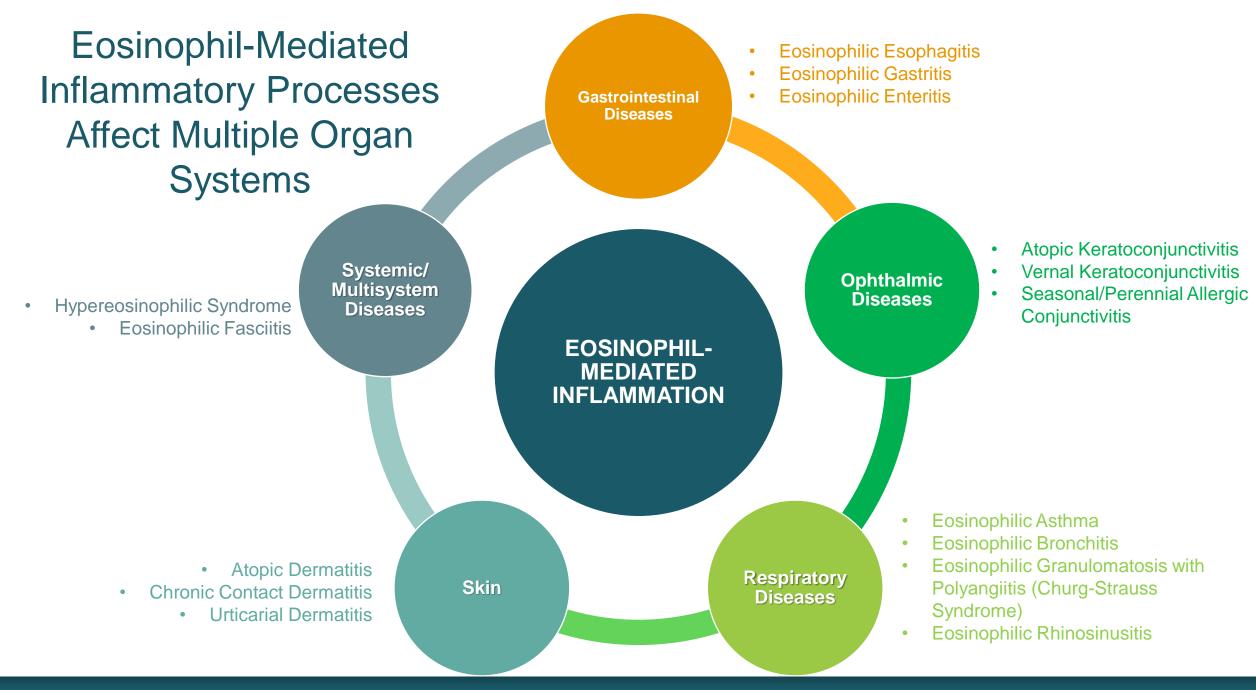
- NexEos is a team of experienced large pharma and biotech entrepreneurs
- A track record of clinical success and outstanding investor returns
- A team with relevant experience in eosinophil-mediated diseases, from discovery and pre-clinical to clinical development
- Previously leaders in the successful development of the anti-IL5 monoclonal antibody, reslizumab (Cinqair<sup>®</sup>), approved for eosinophilic asthma

7 exits - all with positive returns 6 companies acquired and 1 IPO 4 FDA - approved therapies Strigenesis vicept CEPTIO THERAPEUTICStherapeutics Dermatology RHOFADE CINQAIR Anti IL5 Acquired by Rosacea Eos Asthma Dr. Reddy's FDA Approved FDA Approved 2004 Acquired by Allergan Acquired by Cephalon 2011 2010 akarna ACLARIS CEPTARIS FXR Anti-IL1 ESKATA VALCHOR NASH **Orphan Lung** Dermatology CTCL (Cancer) Acquired by Acquired by FDA Approved FDA Approved Allergan Altavant IPO Acquired by Actelion 2016 Sciences / 2015 2013 Sumitomo

2019

## The Scientific Rationale for Targeting eMBP1

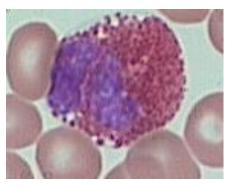




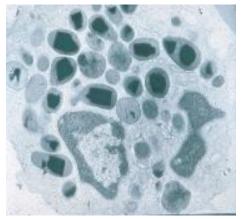
### Eosinophil-Related Disease: Shift in the Scientific Paradigm

- · Eosinophils are white blood cells
  - Circulate in blood and trafficked to target tissues
  - Prominent in allergic diseases (increasingly prevalent) and parasitic infections (decreasingly prevalent)
- Eosinophil-related diseases increasingly identified (in all organs)
- In several inflammatory conditions, reducing eosinophils has conveyed clinical benefit suggesting increasingly complex roles for eosinophils in disease<sup>1</sup>
  - Research in asthma has elucidated the role of eosinophil-mediated inflammation and the function of eosinophil granule products in the pathogenesis of asthma
  - Currently four FDA-approved therapies for eosinophilic asthma

Peripheral blood eosinophil



Electron micrograph (EM) of tissue eosinophil



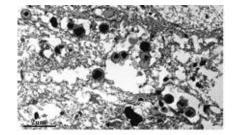
NexEesBio

## Eosinophil-Related Disease: Shift in Pathophysiologic Paradigm

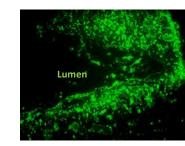
Eosinophils have distinctive cytoplasmic granules

- Eosinophil granule products, especially cationic proteins, are cytotoxic and associated with epithelial damage and hyperplasia across multiple organ systems
- Eosinophil major basic protein 1 (eMBP1) is the granule core and the most abundant granule protein in the cell
  - Toxic kills cells, bacteria, worms
  - Activates neutrophils, basophils, platelets and other cells
  - Dilates blood vessels and induces bronchial hyperreactivity and spasm
- eMBP1 is deposited extracellularly with cytolytic degranulation of eosinophils, and eMBP1 persists [~6 weeks] in tissue driving inflammation

EM of eosinophil granules deposited extracellularly in EoE



Immunostaining for eMBP1 in EoE epithelium\*



#### eMBP1: Distinctive granule core within eosinophil [pl ~11.4]



Image obtained from the labs of Drs. Gleich and Leiferman at the University of Utah



### Foundation of NexEos Programs: eMBP1 Target

eMBP1 remains in target tissue much longer than eosinophils

- Years of research led to the discovery that eMBP1 is a central actor driving inflammation
  - Released by activated eosinophils, eMBP1 drives inflammation and remains in target tissue much longer than eosinophils
- Target for diagnostic and therapeutic uses
  - Diagnostic Program: *Binding* to eMBP1 to diagnose and monitor disease
  - Therapeutic Program: Neutralizing eMBP1 to reduce inflammation symptom control, treatment



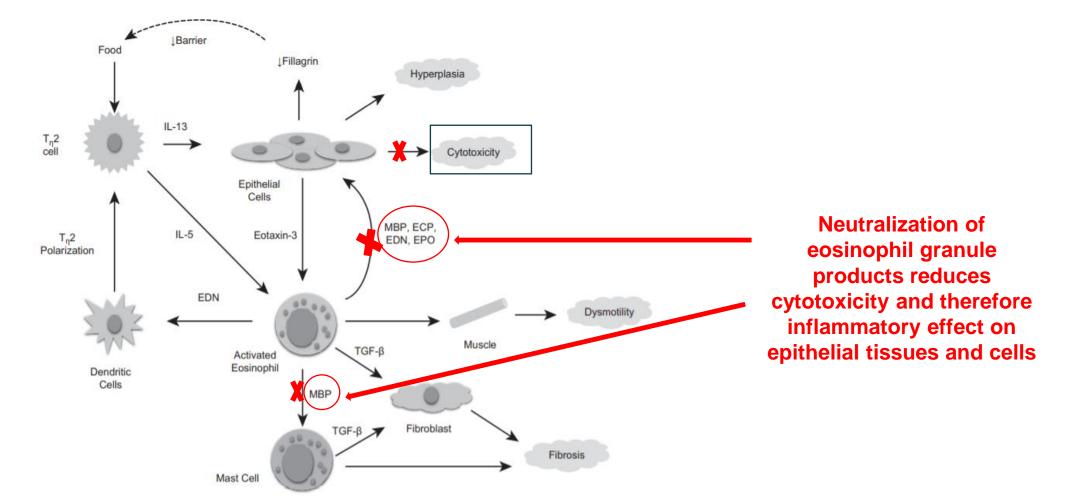


## Therapeutics

eMBP1: A New Target in Treating Eosinophil-Mediated Inflammation Preclinical Evidence

### **NexE**SBio<sup>®</sup>

### eMBP1 Neutralization: Blockade of Eosinophil Granule Products Demonstrate Anti-Inflammatory Effects



Adapted from: Davis BP, Rothenberg ME. Eosinophils and Gastrointestinal Disease. In: Lee JJ, Rosenberg-HF.,editors. *Eosinophils in Health and Disease*. Waltham, MA. Academic Press, Elsevier 2012. p 484-493



# eMBP1 is a New Target to Affect Clinical Outcomes in Eosinophil-Mediated Inflammation\*

- Eosinophil granule products are implicated in the pathogenesis of various target tissues including the lung, gastrointestinal tract, sinuses, skin, and the eye
- Despite new therapies currently on the market for eosinophilic disease, significant unmet need remains
- Neutralization of eosinophil granule proteins disrupts cytotoxic effects on tissues and inhibits the inflammation and cell hyperplasia seen in eosinophil-mediated disease processes
- In preclinical evaluations of both rat<sup>1</sup> and primate<sup>2</sup> models, eMBP1 is directly responsible for an increase in airway responsiveness and bronchoconstriction as seen in clinical presentation of asthmatic patients
- In the antigen-challenged guinea pig model<sup>3</sup>, pretreatment with antibody to eMBP1 prevents airway hyperresponsiveness, demonstrating blockade of eMBP1 has anti-inflammatory effects on targeted tissues

1.Uchida DA, Ackerman SJ, Coyle AJ, Larsen GL, Weller PF, Freed J, et al.. Am Rev Respir Dis 1993;147:982e8 2.Gundel RH, Letts LG, Gleich GJ: J Clin Invest 87:1470-1473, April 1991 3.Evans et al. J. Clin. Invest. 1997. 100:2254–2262

NTXf100 and NTXp101 have been synthesized to block the cellular destructive effects of eMBP1 and the recruitment of other inflammatory mediators. This forms the basis for NexEos' therapeutic program.

\* Detailed Pre-clinical Evidence slides are in Appendix, slides 39-44.

## Therapeutics

NTXf100 and NTXp101 for Eosinophil-Mediated Inflammation Initial Disease Targets: Gastrointestinal and Ocular Diseases

### **NexE**SBio<sup>®</sup>

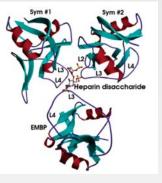
## NexEos Bio Therapeutic Opportunity

NTXf100 and NTXp101: NCEs for neutralizing eMBP1 for treatment of eosinophilmediated diseases

- NTXf100, lead therapeutic program targeted, non-systemic oral and topical as first-line therapy in chronic gastrointestinal and ocular conditions
  - Demonstrated strong binding to eMBP1 in proof of concept, clinical trial for NDX33-o (oral, radiolabeled heparin) in 8 EoE patients
  - Proprietary, fractionated high molecular weight subtype of heparin demonstrates the greatest binding affinity to eMBP1
  - Rapid path to market for lead indications: non-systemic oral for EoE; topical for atopic keratoconjunctivitis
  - Number of additional therapeutic indications can be pursued with targeted delivery
  - CMC supply established US supplier
- NTXp101 targeted injectable/inhaled treatment as first-line therapy for mild to moderate chronic disease to further expand therapeutic reach and commercial potential
- Provisional applications filed for composition of matter and methods of use

- NTXf100 Fractionated high molecular weight heparin demonstrates the greatest binding affinity to eMBP1
- For the first time, NTXp101 proprietary protein for neutralizing eMBP1 - has been synthesized
- NTXp101 Recombinant protein, made in human embryonic kidney (HEK) cells

Heparin binds avidly to a specific site on eMBP1



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# Summary of Key Eosinophil-mediated Effects in Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE)

- NDX33-o (diagnostic agent) binds strikingly to EoE biopsy specimens where eMBP1 is abundantly present throughout luminal epithelium
  - Visual analog assessments and dosimetry measurements correlate with eMBP1 deposition
- Demonstrated binding to eMBP1 in proof of concept, clinical trial for NDX33-o in 8 EoE patients
- Treating EoE and other GI disorders by neutralizing eMBP1 is a rational target
  - Heparin most acidic (negatively charged) substance in the body binds to eMBP1 (strongly basic and one of the most positively charged substances<sup>1</sup>)
  - Heparin is not systemically absorbed in the mucus membranes [no anti-coagulation]
  - Fractionated Heparin (NTXf100) SPR analysis demonstrates binding affinity greatest to high molecular weight subtype of heparin
  - Neutralizing effects as seen in pre-clinical models develop a strong scientific hypothesis
- Targeted delivery of therapy is most feasible route of administration for heparin-based agent
  - e.g., non-systemic oral for GI conditions, eye drops for ocular, or spray for nasal conditions

1. Saffari et. al, Mayo Clin Proc. 2020;95(3):449-458

### Summary of Key Eosinophil-Mediated Effects in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD)

- Eosinophil granule-derived proteins reflect disease activity in IBD
  - Measured fecal EPX (eosinophilic peroxidase) and ECP (eosinophilic cationic protein) concentrations were significantly increased in both active UC and CD in an investigative study of 47 UC, 37 CD and 29 control patients<sup>1</sup>
- A positive correlation is seen between the number of infiltrating eosinophils and disease severity in UC
  - Severe eosinophilic infiltration of lamina propria was noted in histological evaluation of colorectal biopsy specimens from 10 nonresponding (to medical treatment) patients with active UC<sup>2</sup>
- Eosinophils have been found to increase mucosal barrier permeability in UC by releasing MBP and thus contributing to the pathogenesis of IBD
  - In a Th2-mediated mouse colitis model, relative to wild-type mice, eMBP1-deficient mice failed to develop pathologies associated with Th2-mediated colitis, suggesting a direct link between eosinophils and intestinal dysfunction<sup>3</sup>
- In a study of patients exhibiting acute exacerbations, quiescent disease and therapeutically resistant IBD, deposition of extra-cellular MBP was seen in both active and quiescent stages in the clinically responsive group of patients, with greater deposition in active disease, and rarely observed MBP in the refractory group<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1.</sup> Saitoh O et al. Am J Gastroenterol (1999) 94:3513-20.

<sup>2.</sup> Zezos P et al. Colorectal Dis (2014) 16

<sup>3.</sup> Furuta GT, Nieuwenhuis EES, Karhausen J, Gleich G, Blumberg RS, Lee JJ. Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol (2005) 289:G890–7. doi:10.1152/ajpgi.00015.2005

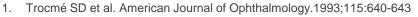
<sup>4.</sup> Smyth CM, Akasheh N, Woods S, Kay E, Morgan RK, et al. (2013) Activated Eosinophils in Association with Enteric Nerves in Inflammatory Bowel Disease. PLoS ONE 8(5): e64216.

## Ocular Disease: Eosinophils and eMBP1

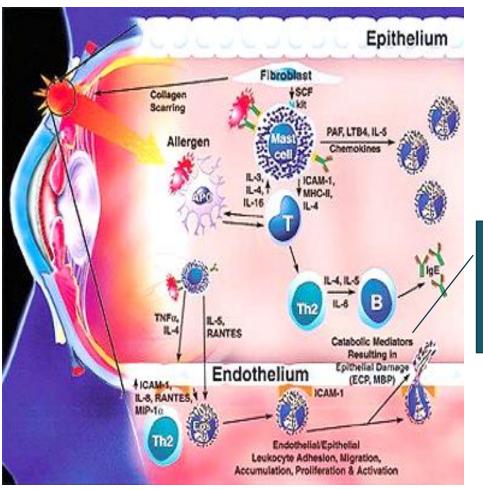
- Diseases clinically recognized as having an allergic pathophysiological component are seasonal and perennial allergic conjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis (VKC), and atopic keratoconjunctivitis (AKC)
  - Involvement of eosinophils in these diseases has been explored by analyses of tears and studies of ocular biopsies
- Studies of vernal ulcerations noted in patients with VKC utilizing indirect immunofluorescence assays show eMBP1 deposition in the cornea<sup>1</sup>
- Further clinical investigations evaluating conjunctival biopsy specimens from patients with VKC, giant papillary conjunctivitis, and control have shown significantly greater amounts of eMBP1 deposition in tissues<sup>2</sup>

Differential diagnosis of occular allergy										
	SAC	PAC	VKC	AKC	GPC	CDC				
Eosinophils in swab	Frequent	Very frequent	Characteristic	Characteristic	Not frequent	Not frequent				
Abbreviations: SAC, seasonal allergy conjunctivitis; PAC, perennial allergic conjunctivitis; VKC, vernal keratoconjunctivitis; AKC, atopic keratoconjunctivitis; GPC, giant papillary conjunctivitis; CDC, contact dermatoconjunctivitis										

Adapted from: MC Sánchez et al. J Investig Allergol Clin Immunol 2011; Vol. 21, Suppl. 2: 1-19



2. Trocmé et al. American Journal of Ophthalmology. 1989;108:57-63



Adapted from: Bielory L. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2000;106:805-16

### NexEesBio

Catabolic

Mediators

Resulting in

Epithelial Damage

(ECP, MBP)



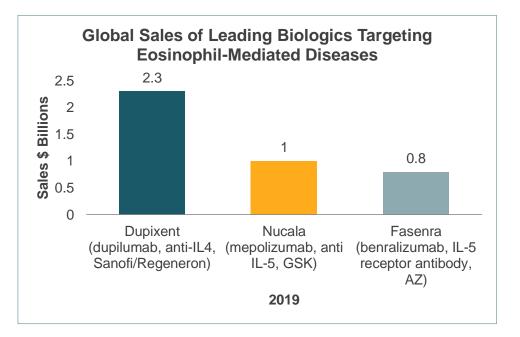
## Therapeutics

Commercial Opportunity: Neutralizing eMBP1 in Eosinophil-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases

### **NexE**SBio<sup>®</sup>

### Biologics Have Built a Significant Market for Eosinophil-Driven Inflammation

- Evolving Market biologics targeting eosinophil-mediated diseases are driving large market value
  - Dupixent approved for: Atopic dermatitis (Mar 2017), mod-severe eos asthma (Oct 2018), and chronic rhinosinusitis w/nasal polyps (Jun 2019)
  - Nucala approved for: Eos asthma (Nov 2015), Churg-Strauss Syndrome [aka eos granulomatosis with polyangiitis] (2017), and Hyper Eosinophilic Syndrome (HES) (Sept 2020)
    - 36% growth in 2019
    - Currently pursuing nasal polyps and COPD
  - Fasenra approved for: Eos asthma (Nov 2017)
    - 65% YoY growth in 2019
    - Currently pursuing COPD, nasal polyps, HES and Churg-Strauss Syndrome
- NTXf100 Opportunity for effective, targeted non-systemic oral and topical forms to be used as first-line therapy in GI, nasal and ocular conditions, reserving biologics for patients who have severe disease
- NTXp101 Opportunity for a next generation therapy with the ability to deliver as injectable/inhaled forms – expands potential to indications such as asthma, HES, CSS



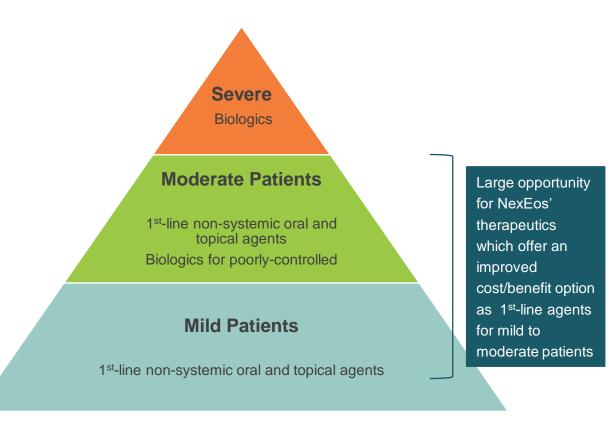
Current biologic therapies offer compelling efficacy; however, they have a high cost and carry safety risks (hypersensitivity, injection reactions, and in some instances, risk of anaphylaxis, and concern regarding inhibition of the immune system)



### Commercial Opportunity for Therapeutic Targeting Eosinophil-Driven Inflammation is Broad and Growing

Wide array of conditions to target; patient populations continue to grow with increase in awareness

- Awareness and diagnosis of eosinophil-mediated diseases are on the rise – building potential for new therapies targeting eosinophil-driven inflammation
- Sales of biologics to treat eosinophil-driven diseases forecasted to exceed \$5 - 10B by 2022
- Large opportunity for non-systemic oral and topical treatments offering an improved cost/benefit option for 1<sup>st</sup>-line status in less severe patients
- Targeting combination of indications can conservatively support sales >\$1B
- Provides synergistic addition to pipeline for companies with biologics in eosinophil space
  - 1<sup>st</sup>-line: NexEos non-systemic oral and topical agents for mild to moderate patients
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>-line: Biologics for severe or poorly controlled moderate patients
  - Clinical management of Asthma, RA, psoriasis, and atopic dermatitis are relevant market proxies for the eos disease market=> 1<sup>st</sup>-line less expensive, small molecules; biologics reserved for severe patients or moderate patients who do not achieve disease control on 1<sup>st</sup>-line agent
  - Labels across biologics reflect restriction to severe or poorly-controlled moderate disease





### NexEos Robust Pipeline: Potential Across Spectrum of Eosinophil-Mediated Diseases

NTXf100 to offer significant opportunity with targeted delivery; next generation compound NTXp101 as injectable/inhaled allows for further expansion

**NTXp101** – Next generation; injectable/inhaled agent

- Eos Asthma
- HES
- Others

## **NTXf100** – Non-systemic oral and topical delivery forms

- EoE
- EGID
- Eos Ocular Disease
- Eos Chronic Rhinosinusitis

Lead program: NTXf100 will target administration (nonsystemic oral, eye drops, nasal spray)

NTXp101: next generation treatment that further expands the potential reach into additional indications via injectable/inhaled administration

Combination of indications for lead program (NTXf100) supports >\$1B market opportunity. Expansion into next generation and systemic conditions further drives potential.





### In Vivo Diagnostics

NDX33-o: Imaging Agent for the Diagnosis of Eosinophilic Esophagitis Proof of Concept



## NexEos Bio Diagnostics Opportunity

NDX33-o (radio-labeled heparin) for detection of eMBP1 inflammation in EoE

## NDX33-o non-invasive imaging agent binds to eMBP1 and "lights up" eosinophil-related inflammation in the esophagus

- Heparin most acidic (negatively charged) substance in the body binds to eMBP1 (strongly basic and one of the most positively charged substances<sup>1</sup>)
- Well characterized agent with established pharmacokinetic and safety profiles; not systemically absorbed when taken as an oral solution
- Technetium<sup>99m</sup> forms a stable complex with heparin (NDX33-o)
- Proof of concept demonstrated in initial study of 8 EoE patients
- Clearly defined regulatory path
- CMC supply for heparin established US supplier
- Filed IND for NDX33-o
- Rapid path to market for lead diagnostic indication EoE diagnosis and management
- NIH grant further validates science
- Strong granted IP issued patents run through 2034; additional filings pending
- Granted Orphan Drug Designation for EoE; filed for Fast Track, pending IND opening

### Scientific Advances

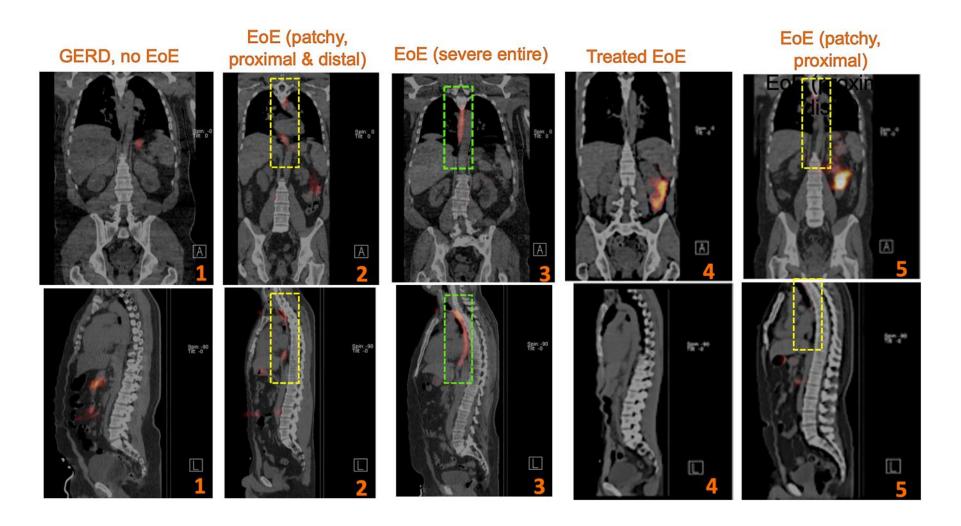
- First, non-invasive and visual diagnostic for EoE
- Published on false negative for EoE biopsy vs positive read when targeting eMBP1 as marker<sup>1</sup>
- Using antibody for eMBP1 extra cellular detection in pathology, proving false negative patients can be positive for EoE Dx



<sup>1.</sup> Saffari et. al, Mayo Clin Proc. 2020;95(3):449-458

## Clinical Proof of Concept for NDX33-o

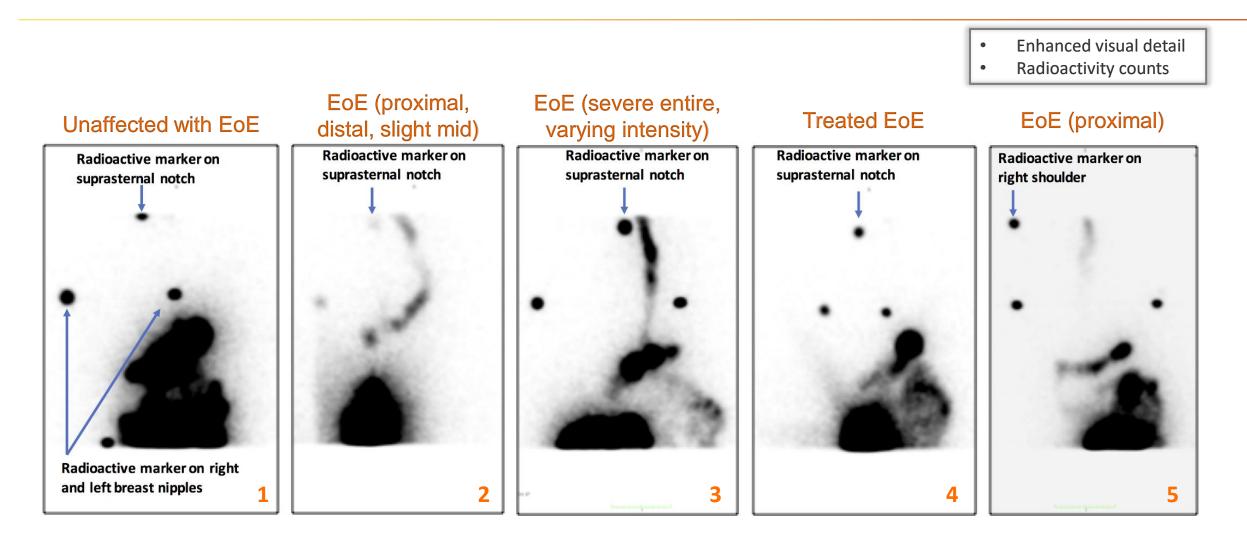
Successful imaging and mapping of inflammation by SPECT/CT (5 subjects) Radioactivity localized to inflamed esophageal areas



- Patients swallowed radio-labeled proprietary agent
- Imaging conducted by SPECT/CT
- Presence of disease was confirmed by subsequent EGD with biopsies per guidelines
- High correlation of imaging and biopsy results

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### NDX33-o: SPECT Images of Same Five Subjects



#### NexEesBio

## Proof of Concept Summary for NDX33-o

Preliminary results from the first clinical study in a total of eight\* patients

- Swallowed NDX33-o binds to the esophagi of patients with active EoE
- NDX33-o binding correlates with markers of eosinophil-related inflammation in individuals with EoE
- Swallowed NDX33-o passed through the gastrointestinal tract with minimal absorption
- NDX33-o was well tolerated by all 8 patients
- The swallowed, radio-labeled formulation of NDX33-o has demonstrated:
  - Proof of Concept with a high degree of accuracy
  - Statistically significant correlations with severity and intensity of inflammation compared to biopsy
  - High degree of specificity and sensitivity support diagnostic approval probability
  - Visual analog assessments and dosimetry measurements correlate with eMBP1 deposition
- \*Three patients studied at a lower dose preliminary results mirror those of the initial 5 patients

NDX33-o: a novel diagnostic for eosinophil-mediated disease, including EoE

NexEesBio



## In Vivo Diagnostics

Commercial Opportunity: NDX33-o Imaging Agent for the Diagnosis of EoE



# Significant Unmet Need Exists in the Diagnosis and Ongoing Management of EoE

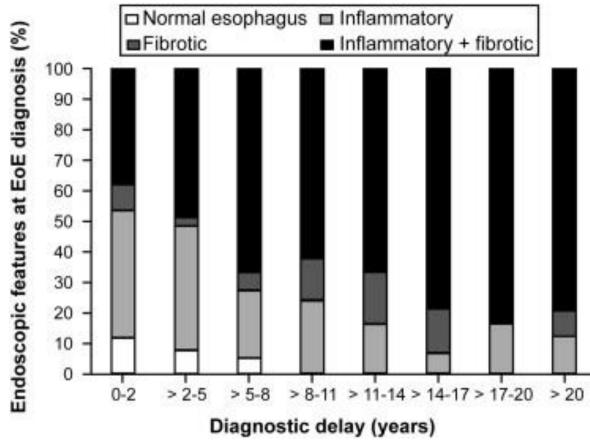
- Eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) is a chronic inflammatory condition characterized by eosinophil infiltration into the esophagus
- Affects approximately 175,000 people in the US alone likely underdiagnosed
- Current standard of care for diagnosis and ongoing disease management is endoscopy with biopsy
  - Guidelines require multiple biopsies to cover proximal and distal esophagus to identify eosinophils in target tissue
- The current standard has many shortcomings
  - Barrier to access costly and resource intensive, invasive test that many patients are reluctant to undergo
  - Safety concerns across treated populations
    - in pediatrics, risk from general anesthesia used for sedation
    - in adults who have strictures, risk of esophageal perforation
  - EoE is a notoriously patchy disease point specificity of biopsy often can miss areas of inflammation leading to misdiagnosis or underdiagnosis
- Delay in diagnosis drives long term sequelae of disease
  - Many patients have greater than a 5-year lag between onset of symptoms and diagnosis
  - Ongoing inflammation can lead to development of permanent fibrotic remodeling and strictures

NDX33-o: a non-invasive method of imaging the entirety of the esophagus

NexEes Bio

### Delay of Diagnosis Leads to Disease Progression

Endoscopic features present at time of EoE diagnosis stratified by years since diagnosis<sup>1</sup>



 Mean diagnostic delay is up to 3.5 years in children and 8 years in adults based on a systematic review<sup>2</sup>

- The longer the diagnosis of EoE is delayed, the greater the inflammation duration
- Strictures are dependent on inflammation duration
- Missed or delayed diagnosis leads to higher costs related to disease progression (e.g. strictures)

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1. Schoepfer AM, Safroneeva E, et al. Gastroenterol. 2013;145(6):1230–1236.e2 2. Shaheen NJ, Mukkada V, Eichinger CS, et al. Dis Esophagus. 2018;31(8):1-14.)

### **Commercial Potential for NDX33-o**

First non-invasive imaging test for eosinophil-driven inflammation

### Potential Benefits of Lead Diagnostic NDX33-o

#### Diagnosis

More accurate, non-invasive diagnostic approach, enables patients to be more quickly diagnosed, properly treated

#### Follow-up

Effective way to evaluate whether an EoE drug is working. This can reinforce patient's confidence and acceptance of the drug therapy, improve patient compliance, improve follow on disease management and ultimately improve the patient's quality of life.

#### **Treatment Screening**

This diagnostic technique can identify therapies that are less effective and allow for quick course correction which can ultimately reduce adverse effects for patients and potentially be more cost effective.

## Significant upside potential >\$500 million on expansion into other opportunities

**Beyond the diagnosis of EoE**: NDX33-o has the potential to identify and diagnose other eosinophilrelated diseases, such as eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders (EGID), including eosinophilic colitis and eosinophilic gastroenteritis; plus, eosinophilic rhinitis

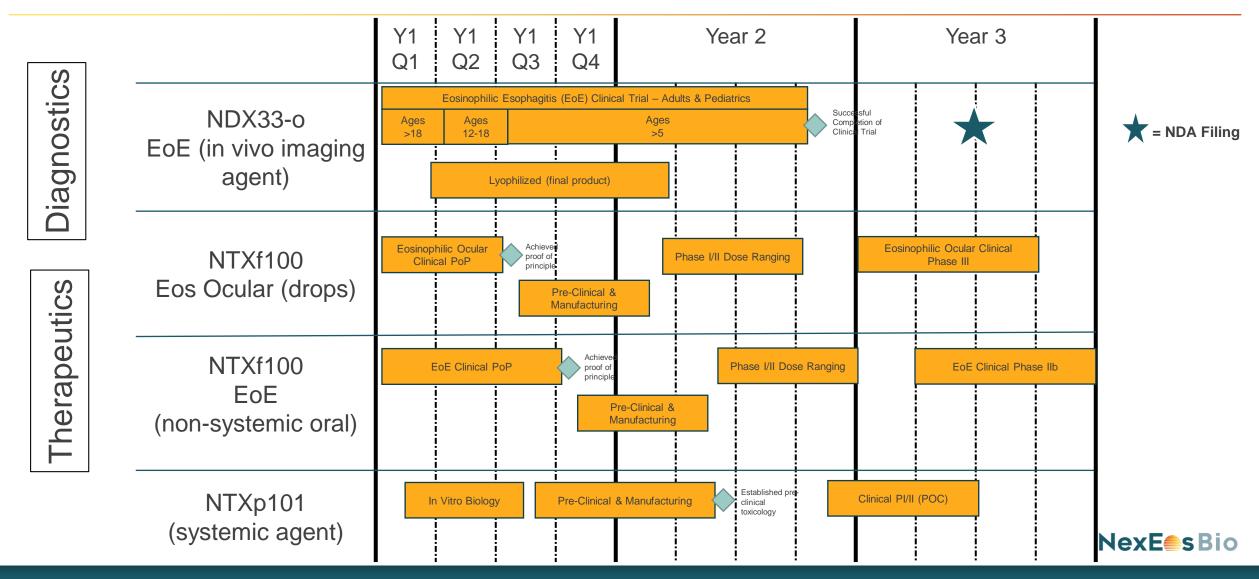




# Development Plan for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Programs



### NexEos Bio: 3-Year Development Plan & Milestones



### Regulatory Considerations: Diagnostic Program

NDX33-o has a clearly defined regulatory path

- Medical imaging agents are governed by the same regulations as other drug and biological products
- FDA approval path
  - Filed IND for NDX33-o
  - Granted Orphan Drug Designation for EoE diagnostic
  - · Fast Track Designation will be considered upon approval of the IND
  - Subsequent submission of an NDA through CDER division
- Radiopharmaceutical "cold" kits consist of the active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) that do not contain radioactivity
  - NDX33-o "cold" kit contains sterile-pharmaceutical preparation of USP heparin, along with an adequate quantity of reducing agent, buffer, stabilizing agents and excipients
  - Technetium<sup>99m</sup> (Tc-99m) will be added, prior to the diagnostic imaging test, at the radiopharmacy
- Established safety profiles
  - Both heparin and short-lived Tc-99m are well characterized agents with known pharmacokinetic and safety profiles
  - Heparin is not systemically absorbed when taken as an oral solution
  - Radiopharmaceuticals based on Tc-99m are the most used SPECT imaging agents in the clinic, accounting for >70% of diagnostic imaging for bone, renal, hepatic, hepatobiliary, cardiac, and oncological diseases<sup>1</sup>
    - Advantages of utilizing the Tc-99m isotope include a 6-hour half-life and administration to patients in low doses
- CMC supply for heparin established US supplier

1. Boschi et al. 2019



### **Regulatory Considerations: Therapeutic Program**

Proposed NTXf100 and NTXp101 regulatory paths

- FDA approval path
  - Establish proof of principle for each NCE
  - Following established proof of principle, file INDs for both NCEs
  - Subsequent submission of NDAs through CDER division
- Lead therapeutic program (NTXf100) is a proprietary, fractionated high molecular weight subtype of heparin to be used as a non-systemic oral solution and/or eye drop
  - Well characterized agent
  - CMC supply established US supplier
- Next Generation product (NTXp101) will allow for systemic and inhaled administration
  - Will require in vitro biology and pre-clinical toxicology



# Thank you!





## Appendix

### **NexE@sBio**<sup>™</sup>

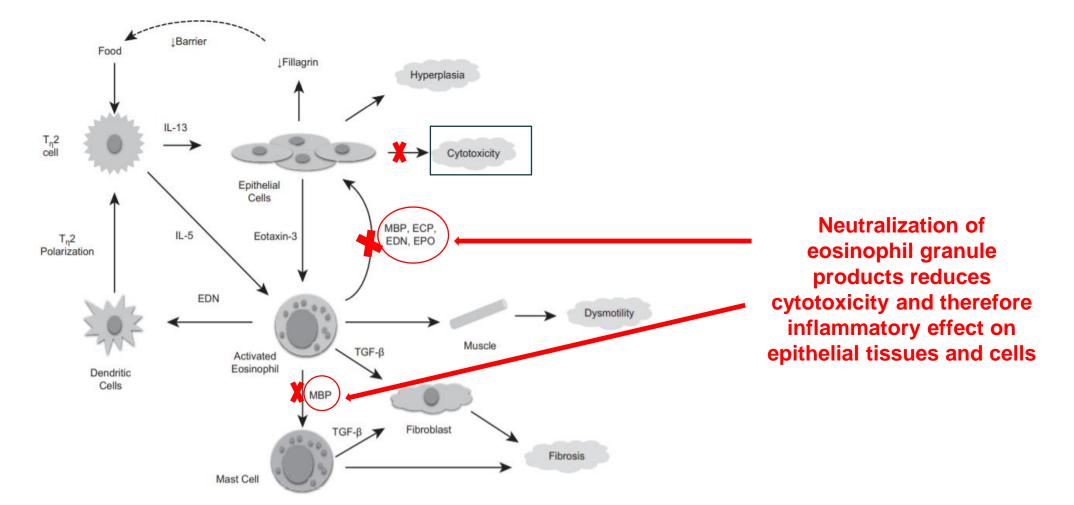


## Therapeutics

eMBP1: A New Target in Treating Eosinophil-Mediated Inflammation Preclinical Evidence

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### eMBP1 Neutralization: Blockade of Eosinophil Granule Products Demonstrate Anti-Inflammatory Effects



Adapted from: Davis BP, Rothenberg ME. Eosinophils and Gastrointestinal Disease. In: Lee JJ, Rosenberg-HF.,editors. *Eosinophils in Health and Disease*. Waltham, MA. Academic Press, Elsevier 2012. p 484-493



# eMBP1 Demonstrates a Highly Toxic Effect and Drives Inflammation

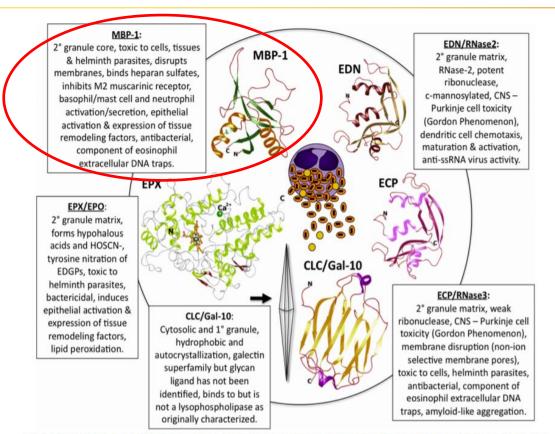
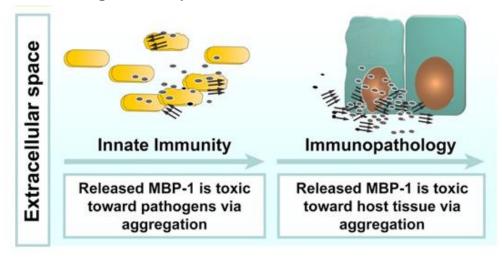


FIGURE 1. Structural representations of the human eosinophil granule proteins showing their location and known functions. The cationic granule proteins shown are: MBP-1 (Protein Data Bank (PDB) code 1H8U); EDN (RNase-2) (PDB code 1H12); ECP (RNase-3) (PDB code 1QMT); and EPX/EPO) (based on molecular modeling using a myeloperoxidase structure, PDB code 1D2V). Also shown is CLC/Gal-10 (PDB code 1LCL), which is mainly cytosolic but also present in a small residual population of primary large core-less granules in the mature eosinophil. CLC/Gal-10 forms the hexagonal bipyramidal crystals (*arrow*) considered a hallmark of cosinophilic inflammation in tissues and body fluids in eosinophil associated diseases.

Adapted from: Acharya KR and Ackerman SJ. Eosinophil Granule Proteins: Form and Function. Journal of Biochemistry.2014;289:25: 17406-17415

- Since the late 1970s, research has linked the toxic role of eMBP1 to cell damage and inflammatory diseases
- eMBP1 and other inflammatory mediators are primary mechanisms of epithelial tissue damage and dysfunction



Major basic protein 1 (MBP-1) toxicity is restrained via crystallization in eosinophil secretory granules. Following eosinophil degranulation, eMBP1 toxicity is activated upon extracellular release and aggregation, which mediates the damage to pathogens and host cells. Image adapted from: Soragni et al. 2015.



# eMBP1 and Other Granule Proteins Facilitate Epithelial Damage and Bronchoconstriction in Asthma

- eMBP1 in the airway damages bronchial epithelial cells
- In vitro studies show the application of eMBP1 to respiratory tissue, at concentrations consistent with values found in sputum and bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) fluid of asthmatic patients, leads to erosion of tracheal epithelium seen in the bronchial mucosa of subjects with asthma
- Autopsy specimens from patients who have died of asthma show eMBP1 deposited in the airway and on bronchial epithelium
- eMBP1 alters nerve function in animal models in the lung, inhibiting nerves which control airway responsiveness

		<u>Cytotoxicity</u>	Epithelial Damage	Airway Hyper- Responsiveness	Broncho- Constriction	Mucus Production, Vascular Leakage, Vasodilation	Eosinophil- Attraction Activation	Mast-Cell Proliferation
Granule proteins	MBP	+	+	+				
	ECP	+	+	+				
	EDN	+	+	.+				
	EPO	+	+					
Lipid mediators			Leukotrienes C <sub>4</sub> , D <sub>4</sub> , E <sub>4</sub>	+	+			
				Prostaglandin E2, 12	-	+		
				PAF	+			
Cytokines						IL-3	+	+
						GM-CSF	+	
						IL-5	+	

Adapted from: Thomas A, Busse WW (2013). The Evolving Role of Eosinophils in Asthma. In: Lee JJ, Rosenberg HF editors. *Eosinophils in Health and Disease*. Waltham, MA: Academic Press, Elsevier; 2012. p. 448-460

Overall, these findings argue that eMBP1 is a key mediator in bronchial tissue damage and the clinical symptomology observed in asthma

Gleich GJ, Frigas E, Loegering DA, Wassom DL, Steinmuller D. J Immunol 1979;123:2925e7; Wardlaw DF, Dunnett S, Gleich GJ. Am Rev Respir Dis 1988;137:62



### In Both Rat<sup>1</sup> and Primate<sup>2</sup> Models, eMBP1 Drives an Increase in **Airway Responsiveness and Bronchoconstriction**

R A T M O D E L	Dose-response characteristics to inhaled methacholine (MDRC) determined and the rats were allowed to recover	Baseline	Respirations (R <sub>rs</sub> ) monitored for 15 min followed by determination of methacholine dose-response characteristics in primates
	<ul> <li>Application of 100 µg of purified human MBP via direct instillation into the trachea</li> <li>1 hour after instillation, the MDRC were again assessed</li> <li>48 hours after MBP instillation airway responsiveness to methacholine reassessed, by which time airway responsiveness had returned to baseline level</li> </ul>	Experimental Group	<ul> <li>Purified eosinophil-derived granule protein slowly infused into trachea via 20cm piece OE 240 tubing attached to syringe</li> <li>Vehicle control challenge performed prior to administration of increasing doses of methacholine for construction of methacholine dose-response curves</li> <li>Changes in R<sub>rs</sub> measured at 1- and 3-min post aerosol challenge; with aerosol challenges separated by 5-8 min or R<sub>rs</sub> returned to baseline</li> </ul>
	Animals received buffer from void volume pool of same chromatography column used to purify MBP	Control Group	Animals received vehicle molecule and were monitored 1, 2, and 4 hours post instillation for determination of methacholine dose- response relationships
	Within 1 h of direct instillation of MBP onto the trachea of rats, significant, <b>short-lived increases in airway</b> <b>responsiveness to methacholine occurred analogous</b> <b>to the <u>lung dysfunction observed in asthmatic</u> <u>patients</u></b>	Conclusions	<ul> <li>Direct instillation of MBP into the trachea of primates resulted in a <u>significant and dose-related increase in airway responsiveness to inhaled methacholine</u></li> <li>MBP and eosinophil peroxidase (EPO) induced a transient bronchoconstriction with resolution within 1-hour post-instillation</li> </ul>

1.Uchida DA, Ackerman SJ, Coyle AJ, Larsen GL, Weller PF, Freed J, et al.. Am Rev Respir Dis 1993;147:982e8 2.Gundel RH, Letts LG, Gleich GJ: J Clin Invest 87:1470-1473, April 1991



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### Pretreatment with Antibody to eMBP1 Prevents Airway Hyperresponsiveness: Antigen-Challenged Guinea Pig Model

#### Sensitization and antigen challenge

1.0ml Ab-MBP (rabbit anti-

guinea pig eosinophil MBP)

BEFORE

challenge

1.0ml Ab-MBP

eosinophil MBP)

AFTER antigen challenge

i.p. 18-24 hrs

(rabbit antiguinea pig

antigen

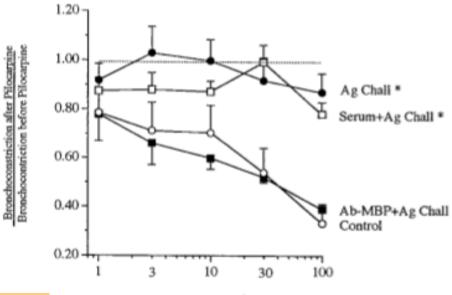
Pretreatment Regimen

i.p. 18-24 hrs

- Intraperitoneal injections of 0.3ml ovalbumin every other day for total of 3 injections
- Antigen challenge → 3wks post last injection with aerosolized 5.0% ovalbumin for max 5 min until signs of respiratory distress

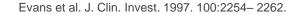
Neuronal M<sub>2</sub> muscarinic receptor function tested with administration of pilocarpine. Effects on vagallystimulated bronchoconstriction evaluated

Pretreatment with Ab-MBP (1.0ml intraperitoneal) protected response to bronchoconstriction



Pilocarpine (µg·kg<sup>-1</sup>)

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Airway hyperresponsiveness and

consequent bronchoconstriction is a result of

neuronal M<sub>2</sub> muscarinic receptor function inhibition by eMBP1



## In Vivo Diagnostics

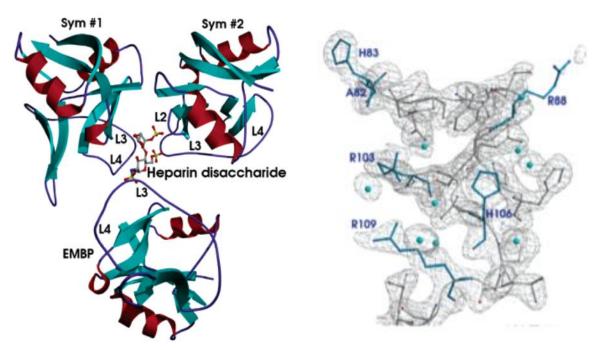
Back ups: Proof of Concept for NDX33-o Imaging Agent for the Diagnosis of EoE

### **NexE** ■sBio<sup>™</sup>

# Neutralizing eMBP1 Interrupts Inflammation Demonstrating the Basis of a Treatment Effect on Eosinophilic-Driven Diseases

Unfractionated heparin in our therapeutic model is shown to neutralize eMBP1 in vitro and in vivo

- In vitro: Heparin binds to eMBP1 and blocks eMBP1 destruction of *helminth parasites* therefore demonstrating a neutralizing effect and the potential to reduce inflammation caused by eosinophil granule proteins
- In vivo: Heparin binds avidly to a specific site on eMBP1
  - The effects of eMBP1, strongly bound to cardiac and lung M2 muscarinic receptors, can be reversed by bound heparin further illustrating the neutralizing effect of heparin on eosinophilicdriven inflammatory processes



Interaction of a single molecule of heparin disaccharide with molecules of eMBP1

Swaminathan GJ, Myszka DG, Katsamba PS, Ohnuki LE, Gleich GJ, Acharya KR. Eosinophil-granule Major Basic Protein, a C-type Lectin, Binds Heparin. Biochemistry. 2005;44:14152



### EoE: NDX33-o (Heparin-<sup>99m</sup>Tc) Binding and Inflammation Scores

Patient No.	Disease State	Hep-Tc Binding Visual Scoring (P, M, D)*	Eosinophil Counts/HPF (P, M, D)	Esophagus Geometric Counts of Planar Images **	eMBP1 Immunostaining Findings (P,D)
1	Normal	0, 0, 0	(0,0,0)	6,626	(Negative, Negative)
2	EoE	2, 1, 3	(0,5,42)	18,363	(1/2+, 2-3+)
3	EoE	4, 4, 2	(80, 125,143)	66,323	(3+, 3+)
4	EoE	0, 0, 0	(0,0,0)	5,010	(Negative, Negative)
5	EoE	2, 1, 0	(91,32,0)	16,010	(1/2+, 1/2+)

\* P, M, D = proximal, mid, distal

\*\* Geometric mean counts from anterior and posterior planar images 2 hrs after oral administration, with the region of interest of approximately equal size

### NDX33-o: Correlation Analyses - Spearman's Rho

Very high correlation between biopsy and imaging results

	Peak Eosinophil Counts (P, M, D)	eMBP1 Scores (P, D) ##
Visual (Heparin-Tc99m) binding (P, M, D) *	r <sub>s</sub> = .84 p < 0.001	r <sub>s</sub> = .87 p = 0.001
Geometric Counts of Planar Esophagus Images **	r <sub>s</sub> = .87 p = 0.054	r <sub>s</sub> = .98 p = 0.005

*P* values range from (0.001-0.054) depending on which correlating measure is being compared.

\* P = Proximal, M = Mid and D = Distal esophageal segments

\*\* Geometric mean counts from anterior and posterior planar images two hours after oral administration.

## eMBP1 immunostaining score by immunofluorescence localization



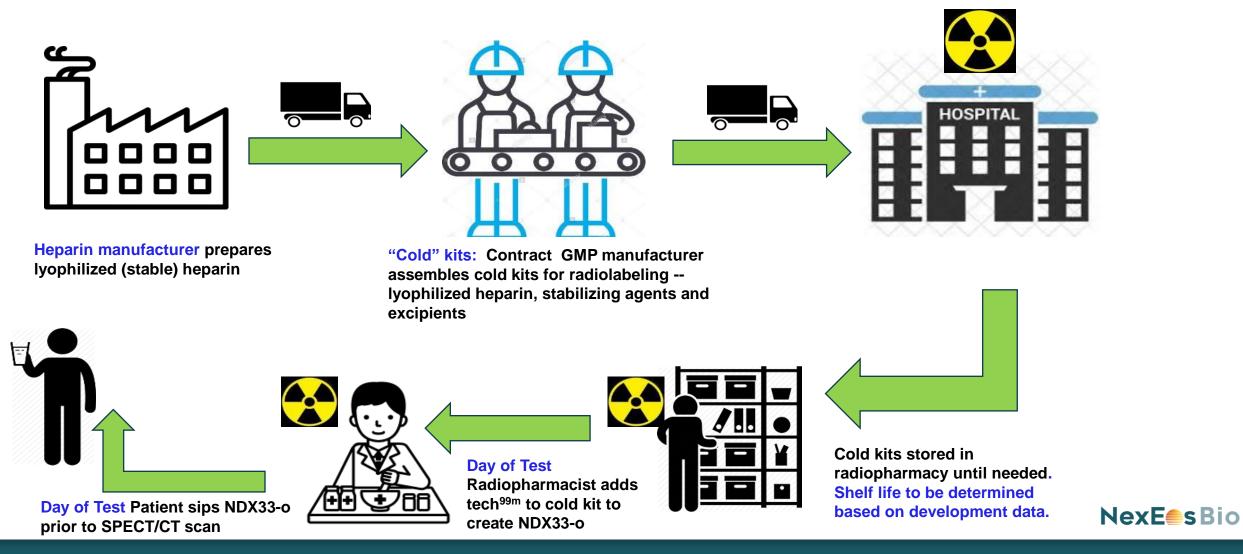


## In Vivo Diagnostics

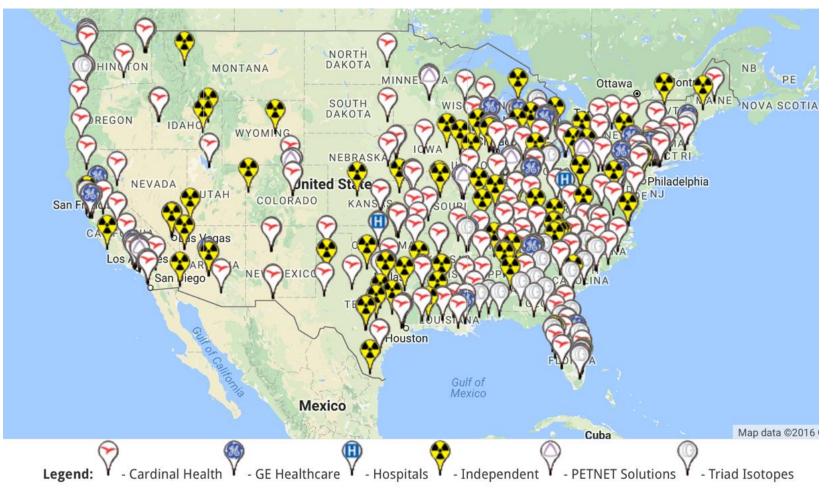
Back ups: Logistics for NDX33-o Imaging Agent for the Diagnosis of EoE

### **NexE**SBio<sup>™</sup>

### Logistics for NDX33-o are Fairly Straightforward



### Radiopharmacies are a Manageable Target in the U.S.



# of Radiopharmacies in the U.S.

- Cardinal Health 130
- UPPI 66
- Independent 64
- Triad Isotopes 61
- PETNET Solutions 41
- GE Healthcare 19

Approximately 400 total radiopharmacies within the U.S.

